

APRIL 11, 1939

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

44-1762

MEMORANDUM

TO: DIRECTOR, F. B. I.

FROM: DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION - LOUISIANA

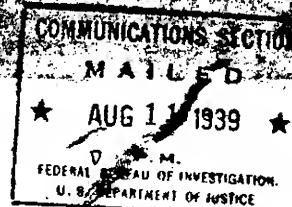
RE: Mr. Gandy

There are enclosed herewith two photostatic copies of a communication dated July 19, 1939, received by the Attorney General from Mr. Gerald L. K. Mccarthy, Detroit, Michigan, and referred to the Bureau. It is desired that they now be furnished by your office to United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Washington, D. C., for their information and action.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Incl: [initials]



Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Seay _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Quinn _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Gandy _____

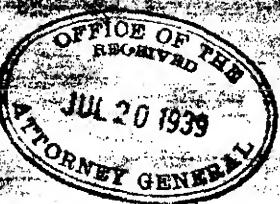
C

//

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nease
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Herbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn

July 18, 1939

For Immediate Release



Fuel was added to the already brightly burning conflagration of the Louisiana graft scandal today by Gerald L. K. Smith, National Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000 and close associate of the late Huey P. Long, who charged, in a prepared statement, that the recently indicted individuals in Louisiana were part and parcel, bone and tissue of the Roosevelt New Deal machine. - 180

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-32509
Smith, who repudiated the existing New Deal Louisiana organization in 1936 because of their deal with Franklin Roosevelt, when interviewed today concerning the current scandals of the Pelican State, said:

"Inasmuch as I was with Huey Long when he was killed, spoke the last words over his grave in the presence of his weeping family and two hundred thousand mourners, I consider it in place to break my three year silence concerning certain matters involving the good people of Louisiana and their assassinated leader.

"Contrary to certain impressions that we have received, the thieves, embezzlers, and crooks that are being exposed in Louisiana today are bone and muscle, blood and tissue part of the Roosevelt New Deal machine. All corruption that will be revealed as the investigation of these personalities and these scandals develops will prove to have taken place after the Louisiana organization was corrupted, bought, and taken over bodily by Mr. Roosevelt.

"Early in the year of 1936 I was one of about five leaders who led a campaign, following the assassination of Huey Long, to elect anti-Roosevelt, anti-New Deal candidates to office. We won this election by about three to one, and the people of Louisiana repudiated the whole New Deal outfit. Then certain of these men, including Governor Leche, Seymour Weiss, and others

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RECORDED

sold out to Mr. Roosevelt and the New Deal and agreed to deliver that state to the Roosevelt candidacy at Philadelphia. When this took place, I made a statement to the people of Louisiana and to the millions of people who had mourned the assassination of Huey Long to the effect that the corruption that was being developed by this organization in cooperation with certain New Deal politicians would, when revealed, make the Tea Pot Dome scandal look like a cold cup of coffee.

"I wonder if Mr. Murphy, the Attorney General of the United States, would dare complete this investigation as it ties into Louisiana, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Washington, D. C., and the White House?

"It is interesting to note that although two or three of us insisted upon an investigation of these affairs for the past three years, that the United States Government took practically no interest in this program of thievery and WPA scandal and New Deal corruption. The thing broke wide open in their face like a wild firecracker.

"What has been revealed thus far is peanuts. The one question that the American people must have answered is this, Why, when Huey Long, the most potent and effective enemy of the Roosevelt New Deal, was at the very zenith of his power in the Senate, in the South, and in America--why, when he was assassinated, was there no investigation on the part of the United States Government as to the conspiracy behind that assassination?

"Mr. Monte Hart, now under indictment, said to me, 'Gerald, we don't dare press the investigation in the state legislature or we will lose the Roosevelt political patronage.'

"When I toured the State of Louisiana in 1936, some of us gathered eleven thousand signed affidavits by poor people who, in the presence of a notary public, said, 'We were told that unless we voted the pro-Roosevelt, anti-Long ticket we would be put off relief and WPA.' I advised them to wear the New Deal badges, stay

on relief, and vote the anti-New Deal ticket.

"These facts were made known to the representatives of the United States Government. At that time, former Governor James Noe even presented a bound volume of eleven thousand signed affidavits, but no action was taken. I even, when I spoke in the New York City Hippodrome, in October, 1936, displayed one whole volume of these affidavits, and no action was taken.

"Mr. Frank Murphy may send fifty men to prison for embezzlement, forgery, misappropriation of funds in this combination Louisiana-New Deal program of corruption, but he will never satisfy the people of Louisiana and the millions of people in the South until he has laid before the people of the United States the report of a complete, thorough investigation into the conspiracy behind the assassination of the New Deal's worst enemy, Huey P. Long..

"Whether Attorney General Murphy has the courage to investigate the assassination of Huey P. Long or not may answer the question, Is he a statesman or a politician, is he a judicial mentality or a New Deal puppet?

"I prophesy that nothing will be brought out reflecting on the way Huey P. Long handled money; nothing will be brought out revealing corruption prior to the deal between these indicted personalities and President Roosevelt; and, when this mess is cleaned up it will be cleaned up by representatives of the people who were loyal to Huey Long when he lived, when he was killed, and since his death. This loyalty was based largely upon his courage to sacrifice patronage, prestige, and political power in order to oppose the bureaucratic, socialistic, corrupt dictatorship of Mr. Roosevelt's alphabetical New Deal.

"In the fall of '36 I addressed seventy-two thousand people in an open park in New Orleans, at which time I foretold this whole program of corruption.

"I am afraid that if Attorney General Murphy presses the investigation into the Hot Oil program in Louisiana, he will come painfully close to the sensitive nerve system of 'honest' Harold Ickes."

JFS:COH

Time: 3:20 p.m.

RECORDED &
JULY 9, 1939 INDEXED

62-38509-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 20 1939

FBI - NEW ORLEANS, LA.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
POLITICAL SITUATION

ONE TWO

SAC Sackett called from New Orleans and furnished the following developments concerning the above-entitled matter:

George Caldwell, the Superintendent of Construction at Louisiana State University who resigned a few days ago, was arrested by a Federal Commissioner's complaint in New Orleans this morning and has been released on \$10,000.00 bond. The complaint charges Caldwell with having used WPA labor and material for unauthorized purposes. It appears that the U. S. Attorney subpoenaed Caldwell before the Grand Jury and upon his refusal to sign a waiver and testify, the U. S. Attorney had the WPA Investigators swear to a complaint.

One J. Fair Hardin, who up until about three months ago was Assistant U. S. Attorney at Shreveport and who is a vigorous prosecutor, together with another individual, has been appointed a Special Assistant to the Attorney General of the State by Governor Long. Early this afternoon, Hardin telegraphed U. S. Attorney Vlosca that he, Hardin, has a great deal of information which definitely indicates a violation of the mail fraud statutes on the part of Dr. Smith in connection with Smith's having sent forged bonds through the mails. Based on this information, Mr. Vlosca has telephonically requested the Post Office Inspectors at Fort Worth to have a Post Office Inspector conduct the necessary investigation in Baton Rouge, which will be done tomorrow apparently.

Mr. Sackett's teletype last night showed the result of the interview with ~~James M. Brown~~. This individual furnished FBI Agents considerably more information than he has given any other agency, State or Federal and admitted his correct name to be James Murphy. He also stated he was born at Pittston, Pennsylvania, on June 4, 1898. He is quite fearful of physical violence should it become known that he is James Murphy. Something occurred in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which is causing him considerable concern. He was arrested by the Pittsburgh Police Department in 1923 allegedly on a fictitious charge of failing to pay an employee, which is stated to be the result of his crusading as a newspaper man against crooked politics in Pittsburgh. Brown's

MEMO FOR MR. TANKE

7-7-39

FINGERPRINTS WERE TAKEN BY THE DIVISION OF POLICE OF Baton Rouge
WHICH HE WAS REQUESTED ON THE 12TH INSTANT TO DO. THESE FINGERPRINTS
WERE APPARENTLY HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU. IT IS UNKNOWN
NAME OF JAMES MARSHALL BROWN. IT IS UNKNOWN WHETHER A SEARCH
OF HIS FINGERPRINTS IN THE BUREAU'S INDEXES HAS BEEN MADE. THIS SEARCH
DIVISION WILL RESULT IN HIS UNION OF INFORMATION CONCERNING BROWN.
SACOFF REQUESTED THE CRIMINAL RECORD OF BROWN. THIS JOHN VANCE
MURPHY WITH THE IDEA IN MIND OF HAVING THE BUREAU MAKE A SEARCH OF
OBTAINING FURTHER INFORMATION FROM BROWN. I IMMEDIATELY AGREED AND
TO FURNISH THE BUREAU FURTHER DESCRIPTIVE DATA IN ORDER TO ASSIST
A POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION. SACOFF ALSO STATED HE DESIRED A
CHECK MADE ON JAMES MURPHY AT PITTSBURGH TODAY AND I TOLD HIM
THIS WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF.

Mrs. Sackett conferred with Mrs. J. Attorney Tosca today in an
effort to determine the status of the case against him in Louisiana
at the present time. According to Mrs. Sackett, Special Assistant
to the Attorney General Arnold Rum in New Orleans, has heckled
the witnesses before the Grand Jury to such an extent that
the Grand Jury has asked Tosca not to permit him to appear
before the Grand Jury. It is Rum's desire to have all the
witnesses appearing giving false testimony in his opinion
indicted for perjury.

From the information in Tosca's possession at the present time,
the income tax case against Mr. Rum is not very strong. THE
evidence consists of several items during the 1936, 1937 and
1938 income tax returns on which Rum failed to pay the tax.
Mr. J. Attorney Tosca expects to make a final tax assessment
statements returned as he makes each assessment, with respect
to the WPA investigation before the Grand Jury. He does not
expect any indictments to be returned until all his witnesses
have been submitted. It is contemplated to have one large
conspiracy indictment. The WPA investigators have not as yet
submitted any written reports to the U. S. Attorney and he
has been promised copies of all statements obtained.

Respectfully,

J. F. BEANS

16

1308 Masonic Temple Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana

July 23, 1939

Enclosed
Bureau
United States Attorney,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

In accordance with past procedure of this office,
further information relative to alleged WPA irregularities is
being transmitted.

An anonymous telephone call was received from an individual who advised that in the construction of a garage at the Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana, old bricks from Charity Hospital had been used; that two car loads of new bricks which were supposed to have been used in the construction of this garage had been hauled away from the Jackson Barracks in State trucks. He advised that other WPA material had been removed from the Jackson Barracks in State trucks but he did not know the disposition of those materials.

The same informant advised that WPA labor and materials were used on private projects at Laplace, Louisiana; that OSCAR RENAUD, president of the bank at Laplace, and ANTONIA MARTIN, an attorney and plantation owner at Laplace, benefited by WPA labor and materials.

There is also transmitted herewith a copy of a letter addressed to the Attorney General, postmarked at University, Louisiana, July 1, 1939.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

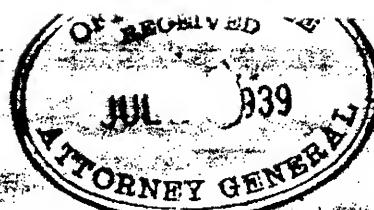
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Enclosure

CWD:sh
cc Bureau

#62-977 (WPA IRREGULARITIES - Information Concerning)
#62-978 (LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS - Information Concerning)

Dear Frank,



While you have them on the job in Louisiana I have your men to question Mrs. Francis Jastrowski who I believe is still working in the City hall in N.O. or was in 38. Also the woman who had charge of the City owned apt. house where Mr. Jastrowski lives in 37.

You can get a lot of info on where P.W.A. other federal money went and how. Bob Mastri and Dick got it. Also you can get the low down on the Auto license money, and salary permit reductions from City and state employees.

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&
INDEXED

32-32589
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 25 1939
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
SEARCHED INDEXED TWO

Best of luck to you.

Sincerely George

P.S. Michyan is sure gone to hell since you left - was there

To Attorney Gen Murphy:

Dear Sir

These slickers will make a fool out of you, unless you put real pressure on them - as Dewey would do.

Without Voting Machines
La is at their Mercy, Votes are not even counted by this gang.

Very truly

J.C. Wigington

H. O. Resident



RECORDED & INDEXED

17

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 2 1939	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New Orleans, La.
July 24, 1939.

AIRMAIL-SPECIAL
DELIVERY

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS:
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

On July 24, 1939, RENE A. VIOSCA, United States Attorney, New Orleans, made a formal request for a Bureau accountant familiar with hot oil investigations. He advised that CLIFFORD CROWLAND and DONALD BURNETT of the Division of Petroleum Conservation, Department of Interior, had submitted a report covering an investigation of the Lincoln Oil Company in 1937 which was not acted upon. That W. A. HELLIS, Greek Consul, is President of the Lincoln Oil Company and ROBERT S. MAESTRI, Mayor of New Orleans, is a stockholder.

VIOSCA advised that the investigators of the Division of Petroleum Conservation had submitted some preliminary reports and were continuing their investigation, but complete investigation would necessitate checking the books of several big oil companies to see if there was an effort on the part of these companies to falsify their records.

MR. VIOSCA suggested that in the event a Bureau accountant was assigned to investigate this case, the accountant would work with the investigators of the Division of Petroleum Conservation who are familiar with hot oil investigations. He advised the investigation would entail a good deal of work and would probably take at least a month.

If the Bureau considers accepting the investigation requested by MR. VIOSCA under the same conditions as the mail fraud investigations are accepted, it is suggested that the Bureau authorize this office to request the reports of the Division of Petroleum Conservation so that it might determine the exact extent of the accounting investigation necessary.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett
B. E. Sackett,
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD:WH

62 3509-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
JUL 26 1939	THO

From: Gerald L. K. Smith
Detroit Leland Hotel
Detroit, Michigan

July 18, 1939

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RECORDED

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62-37509-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 22 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLEDO FIELD OFFICE
RECORDED

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FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1933

The Sun

ARABIAN NIGHTS IN LOUISIANA

remain while our
men abroad.

THE SUN—Sir: The
men from the WPA
have had serious
repercussion.
men by offering
industry is one
plan on home relief.

and tired of these
men want a return
to economic affairs.
a pledge to restore
social and industrial
the only thing it has
is the imposition of
taxes, an impregnable
remendous organization
of crackpots, screwy
radically inclined

forever calm. The
taking laws devoid
of any knowledge
What we actually
represent a
rude, dense taxation
representation.

off of projects and
relief is merely a
governmental responsibil-
ity. All forces are simply
alleviation of their
being a heavier strain
on the public authorities. That's all
I'll wager the Mayor
tax; he'll probably
be still too cheap.

ties have one pri-
that man requires
to prevent starvation,
in to keep out of
it's deadly wrong.
ped to give to their
adequate comfort.
s monumental nat-
care for every one
ists—without diffi-
must worry about
Guardia must take
any of Russian sym-
met have an oppor-
dictatorships, es-
communist Russia,
om day to day at
ons who pay enor-
for the perpetuity
gives a benefit but
ESTER B. SALAZARO.

ed, Returns to His
ath.

THE SUN—Sir: A
edition of the more
English newspaper,
City Chronicle which
always brimful of
us to believe that
Bingham wild white
infected with the
ay. The bulls of the
has been seriously
ngst themselves, but
its history the herd
her, its king bull, in
a.

o, the king bull was
rusted in battle by
wing old usage, the
A day or two later,
the "deposed king"
lously and taking
wards the herd evi-



Legally, What Is a Bank?

Ambiguity Found in the Quinn Saturday Closing Act.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Despite its far-reaching effect upon millions of New Yorkers, the recently enacted amendment to the General Construction Law, which provides that "Any bank or trust company duly chartered, incorporated, organized and/or doing business within the State of New York may remain closed on each Saturday during the months of July and August upon the adoption of a resolution to such effect by a majority vote of the board of directors thereof," evidencing bad craftsmanship on the part of the State

"NEUTRALITY" EXAMINED

A New Jersey Analysis of United States
Thought on Alien Politics.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Why bother with all this unnecessary talk about "neutrality"? This nation was not "neutral," in the true sense of the word, even before entering the last big European conflict. In spite of it being "stuck" for many millions of dollars, it has not changed. We know perfectly well, and so do all Germans, Italians and Japanese, we shall always be involved when, and if Britain is in danger.

Whether or not we should always "aid" Great Britain to keep her power

A River Changed Its Be

Nature's Conspiracy Against the Eig
eenth Amendment.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Memories of prohibition days recall to mind an incident involving what always seemed to me an example nature in her most pranksome. A river changed its course, an ex-puncher took advantage of it with excellent profit and the law officers two countries irately pored over the tomes for precedent to justify actions to enforce the law.

On the northern bank of the Grande on the Texas-Mexico border situated the city of El Paso

vention to fight in
it. He was at one
w king bull and sh
one unknown. Figh
ed battle was not
in conclusion. The
ever, the keeper
bull dead and fear
had evidently met a
the night. One eye
destroyed and his
he was a magnifi
seven years of age
In some curious
impact of which had
at the internal or
were found to be
a pulp; strangely
a bone had been

the newly-formed
Cattle Association,
less Runciman is a
of Tankerville has
eton of the killed
Hancock Museum,
will shortly be on
GEORGE JULIAN.

Base Hospitals in China.

THE SUN—Sir: We
a letter from Dr.
director of the Red
of China, in which
are 350 base hospital
ating about 1,000
there is only one
each bed.

they have almost
need: 60,000 cotton
0,000 large sheets,
100,000 quilted
80,000 pillow cases,
0 sets of men's pa
sta.

not be new. We
for worn bedding.
to make a donation
the American Bu
to China, Inc., 57
York city, and we
the bedding called
Co Tui, M. D.,
men of Blanket Committee.

20.

Be Controlled?

THE SUN—Sir: In
cycling has reached
eat as that of the
the sport was com
was good fun.

a menace to the
myself. Deaths and
out-daily.

ways have been
er no real solution.
is needed, and the
ns are offered:
e for bicycling only.
on main thorough
must observe all

g.
ycles, fee \$2.
should be subject
specation.
icycler enjoys com
responsibility.
us S. BLUMENTHAL.

)
History.
THE SUN—Sir: Who
e for P

Legislature contains
which, unless acted, may give it
to several schools.

Whether by virtue of
popularly known as the Quina Act, Saturday
to banks and trust companies
are legal holidays or are such only when
the banks and trust companies close
pursuant to a regularly adopted resolution
is a moot question. A bank whose
directors refuse to close on Saturday
may be forced to do so because of a by
law which requires it to close on legal
holidays. Certainly the legal implications
are many.

A second, and perhaps more serious,
question is this: Is the term "bank" a
generic one, covering all the various
types of banking institutions, or is it a
specific one denoting only one kind of
banking institution? If the former,
much of the conflict that has suddenly
come to the fore will dissolve into thin
air. But if the latter, as some insist
is the correct interpretation, then savings
banks, industrial banks, savings
and loan associations, &c., the major
ity of which have announced that they
will close on Saturdays, are in a position
where they are taking advantage of
a law not expressly intended for them
and inconveniencing many depositors
who, for lack of organization or spokes
men, are unable to make their protests
heard.

There is no real definition of the term
"bank," for the State Banking Law
(Section 2) and the Tax Law (Section
218-p, sub. 5) give it a technical definition
which is inapplicable to any other
type of banking institution, while the
Negotiable Instruments Law (Section 2)
gives it an extremely broad one, namely:
"Bank" includes any person or association
of persons carrying on the business
of banking, whether incorporated
or not."

It may very well be that Governor Leh
man was cognizant of all this, because,
in approving the bill, he stated: "My
attention has been called to several al
leged defects in the bill. These defects,
however, can be remedied at the next
regular session of the Legislature. Since
the bill is purely permissive, I am ap
proving it."

In the absence of any authoritative
statement to clear the fog created by
the loose language of the statute, no
one knows what the Legislature really
meant. Pending the convening of the
next regular session in January, 1940,
some clarification should be made.

Louis Racheffsky,
Assistant Editor, New York Legislative Service.
New York, July 19.

The Latest Epstein Mystery. From the Hartford Courant.

Students in London are debating Ja
cob Epstein's controversial figure of
Adam on display in Leicester Galleries.
There are many who hold that it is a
three-ton conception of Jacob Epstein
by Jacob Epstein.

A Distinguished Physician on the Perils of the "Regular Life."

"Y. Y." in the New Statesman and
Nation, London.

I wonder what the headmistress
thought when, on speech-day at a girls'
school last Saturday, she heard Sir El
Farquhar Buzzard advising her pupils:
"Whatever you do in life, don't lead
what is called a regular life." "It seems
a terrible thing for a doctor to say,"
he went on to these innocent auditors,
experience has been that peo
wage consistent with his intelligence

is just natural
about conditions from under
the water, but the
water is not much
about the upper reach
the river and rain became
volume of the stream
and said that the water would
flow full and the stream might take
meandering course along the bottom
between its higher banks.

In the past year the newspaper
army, navy, and other government
officials have insisted that Germany,
Italy and Japan must not win in a war
against Great Britain. So why try to
camouflage? Why not openly tell the
world we will back up Great Britain
with arms, credits, airplanes, bombs,
&c.—any time they are needed.

Personally, I care not at all whether
Germany takes Poland, Russia, Rumania
or even France. Nor do I care if
France, Poland or Russia or Great
Britain splits Germany and Italy up
into atoms. That I believe is real
"neutrality."

Sweden and Switzerland (very close
to these nations) seem able to retain
neutrality. We could follow Sweden's
every move and be another neutral, if
we cared to. But there is no doubt that
less than 20 per cent of our citizens feel
the same as Swedes do about foreign
power politics.

What we would like in this country
is less talk about Europe where no real
democracy exists. The entire invested
capital of Americans in Europe is less
than \$3,000,000,000, one-third of a year's
cost of government here. R. C. DAVIS.

Newark, N. J., July 18.

Survey of Clerks in New York Hotels and Clubs.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In
thirty representative hotels and clubs in
Manhattan the average salary for the
desk clerk is \$23.56 a week. Some of
the hotels are outstanding, some of the
clubs ultra-exclusive. One of the hotels
has 1,000 rooms (the wages here were
slightly higher than the above average),
while others were smaller, some of the
residential type.

Qualifications for a hotel clerk are
more or less standardized. Usually the
age requirements range from 25 years
to 35. Most employers insist on at least
ten years of previous experience in the
field. Some are a little more lenient,
asking only five years of prior working
knowledge, especially when the applic
ant is in his early twenties. Recently
young college graduates are in demand,
particularly those who have further
qualified by having been employed in
summer resorts during their vacation
periods.

The clerk must possess a pleasing per
sonality, tactful mannerisms, be well
groomed, spotlessly attired, of medium
height, not too heavy, of clear-cut sales
ability and have a worldwide range of
up-to-the-minute information.

The hours are long and exacting. Until
the advent of the NRA most worked
seven full days—no day off a week.
Take it or leave it attitude. When it is
known by established facts that only
one clerk out of every thousand become
successful managers, the incentive of
the more lucrative positions is practical
void. Hotels have the greatest em
ployee turnover of any form of business.
The remedy would be to give those holding
such important jobs as the clerks a
wage consistent with their intelligence

about conditions from under
the water, but the
water is not much
about the upper reach
the river and rain became
volume of the stream
and said that the water would
flow full and the stream might take
meandering course along the bottom
between its higher banks.

In particular, it happened at El Paso
in the late twenties of that golden
of the "noble experiment." Much
of rain and generally arid condi
brought about the state of affairs
described. At the very back door
the city the stream swing far
toward the Mexican bank, leaving
sand bar on the American side was
allowed one to walk from El Paso
the boundary line and across it a
distance into Mexico without wetting
foot. An ex-waddy (not the
croaking type) seized upon this go
opportunity and hurriedly threw a
saloon on the portion of the sand
across in Mexico. He ferried his
goods across from Mexico without
ing to worry about import duties.

The ex-prodder of longhorns
grand business and prospered, apparently
beyond interference of the angry Feds, who rumbled over
strange situation of having a bit
Mexico unceremoniously thrust at them,
and also, providentially, by
the desire to interfere on the part
the Mexican officers, who disclaim
any responsibility for what happened
"across the river." Our ex-waddy
made famous, locally, this bit of re
tee "I'll not move from here for
or high water," and, with a car
squint upstream, he added the pro
"unless its high water."

How the spirit of Old Man River is
have chorled in glee at its power
hold in abeyance the forces of law
forcement and, not least perhaps,
power to rectify injustice and in so
degree bring leaven to the spirit
man.

WILLIAM H. BUCKS

Brooklyn, July 20.

A Card Index Replaces the Fam Doctor.

From Health News

Monsieur Rucart, Minister of Public
Health for France, has taken cognizance
of the disappearance of the family doctor.
Now that people are treated by specialists
who know nothing about their patient's history, he has decided
that the citizens of France should carry about with them a medical history
which can be used whenever they consult a new doctor. A "health card" has been issued and is supplied free
from the birth of every baby. The use of the card is not compulsory but prefects in each department have been told to encourage people to make use of it. Anonymity is preserved by the use of a number
place of the name of the holder, the number being registered so that if the card is lost, it can be identified.

The "health card" is divided in two sections. On the first is given a medical history of the holder from birth onwards and of his parents. The second half is a dental record.

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled
the use for republication of all news dispatches
credited to it or otherwise credited in
paper and in the local news published by

W.D. with the money and the lights and all getting a thousand guineas.

MR. FARLEY has MR. MORGENTHAU at a disadvantage. HENRY may cry his baby bonds, but he doesn't suggest that they will ever be worth more than promised on the face. JIM sells his commemorative stamps at 99 per cent profit and they never have to be redeemed. It is almost as good as the government's Social Security racket.

Legislative Futility in New Jersey.

After nearly seven months of debate, discussion and argument the New Jersey Legislature has failed to solve the State's most urgent problem, the raising of money for relief. It is true that in the last couple of weeks the Assembly and the Senate, by a miracle of energy and perseverance, succeeded in passing two bills devised to obtain some money for the aid of townships and boroughs requiring aid in assistance of their poor. One of these bills, however, though it became a law, is now open to question before the courts because it calls for diversion of \$2,000,000 from the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. Governor MOORE has just vetoed the other relief measure passed by the Legislature, a bill to divert \$3,000,000 from the State sinking fund.

Public sentiment in New Jersey has been partially organized to oppose a bond issue that will increase the State's obligations. But dissension in the Legislature has been a major cause of the months of haggling over a problem which still seems far from solution. Perhaps the most salutary lesson to be drawn from the situation is that if the people want more effective State government they must make their voices heard in the Legislature. Apathy is expensive.

Russia's Population.

The Soviet government has issued an analysis of the census taken on January 17 of the whole country except the far northern section, where the count is now beginning. The number of inhabitants as of the census day is put at 170,467,186, of whom 81,664,981 were males and 88,802,205 were females. The last previous count was made in 1926, and according to the figures the population increased in the thirteen years since then by 23,439,271, or 15.9 per cent, the average annual increase in the period being 1.23 per cent. The increase in the population of continental United States recorded by the census of 1930 was equivalent to 15.7 for ten years, being 16.1 per cent for the period between census day 1920 and census day 1930, the date of the enumeration having been set back in the interval. With the exception of the decade 1910-1920, in which the date was also changed, this was the lowest percentage of increase ever recorded in the United States, the rate for the period having been 15.4

Don't Do an Authoritative Job
of Your Roosevelt, You Don't
Come if the House Has Blockades
in Order to Help the Unemployed. Now
it appears that when the labor board ten days ago changed its rules to permit employers to nominate for union elections, it was only trying in vain to turn the tide. On June 26, June 29 that the Rules Committee of the House voted 7 to 4 to report favorably the resolution for an inquiry into the board's work.

By the terms of this resolution, introduced by Representative HOWARD W. SMITH of Virginia, a Democrat, a committee of five will be empowered to study the rise or fall in number of strikes since the labor board was set up; the charges of bias in the board's conduct for or against any labor organization and for or against employers; the need for amendments to the Wagner act, and trouble arising from rules and regulations of the board. That the House has accepted such a task is due partly to the tactics of its Labor Committee, which has seemed intentionally to drag out the hearings on amendments.

If an inquiry into the board's record should at last rout the foes of amendment, and so assist in satisfying the clamor for modification of an unfair law, it may seem justified. For the moment it is encouraging to note that the vote in the House, 254 to 134, indicates that popular disgust with the Wagner act and its consequences is making some impression on Congress.

Relief for Trade and Whence It Must Come.

A man from Missouri who is in the House of Representatives said recently that if President ROOSEVELT insists on passage of the spending-lending bill Congress "undoubtedly will be here until September 1." But it was ten days ago that the Congressman made this observation, and now it seems likely that pressure to pass the \$2,800,000 bill may be strong enough to force it through before an August adjournment. How can it help business while the general feeling persists that the effect will be not to revive better times, but to cause in 1940 a false spurt like that of 1937? Originally the program in the bill was defined as self-liquidating, but the change of name to "works financing act" now reveals plainly the kind of criticism Congress has heard of such pretense.

A notion persists in Congress, moreover, that business is now more seriously in want of loans than of anything else. Measures have been proposed to increase RFC insurance of loans to small business, as though that were the essential and immediate need. If borrowing alone could revive small business quickly, the borrowers, Congress may be sure, would have squawked more loudly for aid by now.

The introduction of CONSTITUTIONAL RESOLUTIONS in the House of Representatives by the delegation of 242 Representatives from the South to express their resentment of the executive actions of relief and to prohibit the use of relief funds for political ends. The debate on the proposal to prohibit Federal jobholders in administrative positions from active interference in political campaigns took an astonishing turn. Foes of the measure attempted to load upon it a number of amendments that they hoped would seem so severe to the membership of the House as to bring about defeat of the bill. They reckoned without careful consideration of the strength of a powerful bloc of Democrats who joined the Republican members in approving the bill. If the Senate retains section 9 of the bill as adopted by the House it will become unlawful for employees of the executive branch of the Federal government to use their position for purposes that will affect the result of a primary or general election in which President, Vice-President and members of Congress are nominated or elected. In this as in the vote on the NLRB inquiry and on the new relief act the lower house has displayed disapproval of methods fundamental to the Administration's policies.

At the Hague Chillingham V of which Viscount, the I presented the King bull to Newcastle, who view to the put

New York, J.

Needs of Red

To THE EDITOR are in receipt Robert K. S. L Cross Relief C he states that tals, each acc patients, and set of bedding.

He also says no blankets. T mattress cove 100,000 single mattress prote 80,000 towels, jamas, 32,000 k

These article would be gra Any one wish should please reau for Medic William street. will arrange to for.

New York, J.

Should Bic

To THE EDITOR the last few ye a popularity '80s. At that paratively safe

Today's rid motorist and serious injurie

Some bicycl built, but the A definite pro following sug

1. Set streets
2. No bicycl farea.

3. Bicycle r highway regul
4. No night
5. License a
6. Bicycl to regulation

At present plete immunit

Brooklyn, Ju

Ques

To THE EDITOR was the for den

Humorous, but Lingering
Chemist, stir me up a scuttle
Of some deadly, direful draft
Lingering, but not too subtle,
Brew me, with your utmost craft

Something with a latent venom
Leisurely, but sure as fate;
For there are some public enemis I plan to liquidate.

I require a lethal potion
To correct the sad mistake
Of the cooks who have the notion
That a shortcake's made with cake.

Also I would fain disseminate this stuff among the guys
Who insist on putting lemon
In their so-called apple pies.

Chemist, slip me stuff to slaughter
Chefs who make 'New England
Chowder'

With tomato juice and water;
And I'd like a poison powder

Which'll put a funeral taper
At the wicked Baker's head
Who sells yeast and blotting paper
As Old-Fashioned Home-Made Bread.

Fire burn and cauldron bubble
With a dose that's wholly evil
Which'll cause consistent trouble
In the innards of the weevil

Who disguises meats and fishes
With a highly seasoned sauce
And "improves" our native dishes
So that they're a total loss;

Brew me stuff from witches' caverns
Which will lay upon their biers
Poisonous and stinging, and
The poisoned me

21

HYDE PARK BOULEVARD

CAN. + CHICAGO

CHICAGO BEACH HOTEL

TELEPHONE HYDE PARK 4000



W.S.

Thursday
General Murphy

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-174

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 24 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Dear Sir

There is a

tip Abi Shushan from
New Orleans build
some estate with money
he was to spend in
Charity Hospital from
some one who is well
posted as well S. Morris
& others. Sincerely

J. S. Morris

111

26

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
July 20, 1939

Honorable Rene A. Vlosak
United States Attorney
Post Office Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

Re: LOUISIANA STATE OFFICIALS -
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the past procedure in this office, information received which may have a bearing upon the present situation is being forwarded to your office herewith.

J. N. Kelley, Count-O-Ink Company, 817 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, advised that he had a brother named W. P. Kelley who was foreman of the municipal repair plant in New Orleans and his brother had known for two years that trucks had been taking WPA materials to the home of the former Governor R. W. Leche, Covington, Louisiana.

Kelley also advised that Hellis, Robert Maestri and R. W. Leche were supposed to be partners in an oil company in Louisiana; that this oil company was known as the Lincoln Oil Company; and that Hellis was the front man for this company, Hellis being a naturalized Greek who is now in Greece. Kelley advised that the Greek Consulate buys 4,000,000 barrels a year from the United States; that a great deal of this oil is purchased through the Lincoln Oil Company; that the oil is shipped on the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company ships and that the oil shipped is reported to be "hot oil". Kelley advised that he understood 16,000,000 barrels of "hot oil" went out in the last four years; that at one time when he was in the offices of the Lincoln Oil Company the bookkeeper there complained about the big figures he had to place in small spaces, indicating that the company was sending a great deal of oil out of the United States. He advised that the Lykes Brothers Steamship Company and the Lincoln Oil Company were on the same floor of the Whitney Bank Building in New Orleans.

The informant known as Tom again telephonically called this office on July 18, 1939. He advised that he understood Dr. Lorio took orders from R. W. Leche; that Dr. Lorio pocketed everything he obtained. Tom advised that there were no salary deductions of WPA workers in New Orleans as far as he knew; and that the only possibility of this was in connection with the ~~WPA~~ INVESTIGATION

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170 SEP 17 1964

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

62-32509-17

EX-17
10/15/64

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Honorable Rene A. Viosca - Page 2.

July 20, 1939

on Tulane Avenue. He advised that he understood Hampton Reynolds got a reke-off from companies who furnished materials in connection with WPA projects. Tom further advised that the United States Conservation Commission was supposed to have given to Louisiana State University the sum of \$575,000.00 to be used by the University for the construction of some sort of conservation building. He advised that although the Conservation Commission books show that \$575,000.00 had left the Conservation Commission, the University books indicate that the University received \$67,500.00 less than the Conservation Commission showed they received; that there was evidently a leakage along the line; that he did not know if Rankin or some other State officials received the money. Tom further advised that he understood Seymour Weiss was half-owner of a gambling house at 118½ Baronne Street and was connected there with Bob Maestri and Joe Brown. Tom also advised that he understood that Weiss, Dreyferth and Seifert did a lot of work for the State of Louisiana; that at one time Weiss and Dreyferth tried to give Huey Long \$50,000.00 which Long threw out the door and would not accept. Tom advised that Seymour Weiss was reported to have been born at Bunkie, Louisiana, but from there he went to Alexandria, Louisiana, where he became a pimp and was supposed to have been made by Huey P. Long.

The enclosed anonymous letters are also included with this letter for your information.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT,
Special Agent in Charge.

CWD
PMH
62-978
cc: Bureau
Encs. (2)

(Copy of anonymous communication
received July 18, 1939)

Gentlemen:

If you would like to have some real evidence handed to you on a platter, you might investigate the following: About two years ago, it is alleged that Jim Hill had charge of the deducts fund. When it had reached the three hundred thousand mark he said to the ring, "I propose to take over this money for myself. This will probably make you angry and you may wish to start something, but you had better not. I have filed away in my deposit box at the bank a twenty page typewritten statement giving a statement of your individual records. If I turn up missing, or am injured in any way those records become public property. Knowing me as well as you do, you will admit that no one can tell your story as well as I." It is stated that these funds were used in the investment in a New Orleans race track. I wonder whether his income tax report covers this gain.

XVZ

(Postmarked New Orleans, La.,
July 18, 1939.)

31

(Copy of anonymous communication
received July 19, 1939)

The man behind the insurance racket is Thom Hill, the boss Pendegast of N. O. He operates a refrigerator business with Joe Skelly, the Commissioner, at the corner of St. Charles & Calliope St. Woe betide you if you don't buy their goods. Their names do not appear in this firm but they are the owners allright.

Hill also operates with Joe Brown that jip joint at 1181 Baronne St. It is a 50-50 proposition. Hill maintains a fine home with a retinue of servants, riding stable, yacht Alto at Claremont Harbor in Mississippi.

How does he do it? How much income tax does he pay?

This is strictly confidential. My motive is not revenge but only for the purpose of helping the Federal Government to catch all the crooks operating in La.

(Postmarked New Orleans, La.,
July 18, 1939)

August 11, 1939

ACW:ME

RECORDED 62-92509 -173

86-1045-49

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

No. CRIME CONDITIONS - LOUISIANA

Dear Sir:

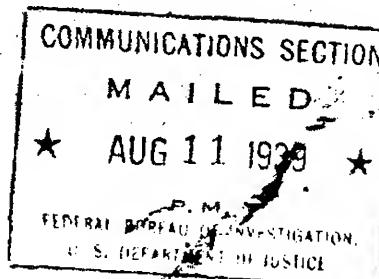
There are inclosed herewith two photostatic copies of a letter dated at Goose Creek, Texas, July 19, 1939, received by the Bureau from Mr. W. L. Atwood. It is desired that one copy be furnished by your office to United States Attorney Rane A. Winsor, New Orleans.

Mr. Atwood's letter has not been acknowledged.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Bandy _____

RECORDED COPY INDEXED 86-1045-49

PO Box 55,
Goose Creek, Texas,
July 19, 1939.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

While this is an unsolicited report, and the statements made here are ones that have come to me through members of my mother's relatives who are closely associated with the present state administration in Louisiana, I believe them to be true and might be of some value in conducting your investigation in Louisiana. I should prefer that my name not be disclosed, but a little check can verify a part of these statements.

The late State Senator from Alexandria, George W. Lee, was a brother to my mother. From statements made by him I believe that Huey Long was not killed by Dr. Wiess as alleged. Interrogate the coroner that removed the bullet, and the nurse that was present at the time, and I believe that you will find the calibre of the bullet removed was .45, the type fired by an Italian bodyguard. The calibre of the gun alleged to have been used by Dr. Wiess was smaller.

The next item is rebates, or commissions paid to individuals closely connected to the administration, for supplies furnished the State and WPA projects. I understand that my uncle received a rebate of 10 cents per cubic yard on all gravel or sand delivered on jobs in a certain part of central Louisiana. This same policy was apparently followed in other parts of the State.

RECORDED & INDEXED

My uncle was also associated with Earl Long. I have heard that the present governor has knowingly filched the state out of funds. In one case a cow belonging to him had been killed on the roadside. He had the cow skinned and sold the carcass to one of the State institutions at Alexandria, either the home for Feeble Minded, or the Insane Asylum, for ~~several~~ ^{several} dollars of \$100.00. The carcass was unfit for human consumption and was dumped. If your representative will interview Mrs. Ola Barron, in Pineville, I believe she will verify this statement.

Earl Long also carries deadheads on the payroll and I have several relatives so carried. There is my uncle's widow, Mrs. Alice Lee, of Pineville whom I understand is carried on the payroll at a salary of \$200.00 per month. Also her son who is a school boy is carried as a junior game warden at a salary of \$50.00. There are other relatives that are being deadheaded on the State payroll. I understand another uncle receives a commission on all cooking oils sold to state institutions.

I get along fine with my relatives, but cannot condone their political actions. For this reason would prefer that this information be treated confidential. At the same time it will be a lead others that I am sure are being on the graft-end of state and federal funds.

Sincerely,

M. Latwood

35

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

BES:ESK

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

July 17, 1939

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowley
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Candy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR RECORDED

Re: Louisiana State Officials:
Information Concerning

62-32509-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I understand from Agent Shivers that he suggested that ~~you go~~ ^{UL 20 1939} your party stop at the Jung Hotel in New Orleans in the event you go there, since of course you would not want to stay at the ~~Hotel Roosevelt~~ ^{101 St. & Carrollton}.

I do not believe you will desire to stay at the Jung Hotel for the reason that Superintendent of Police George Reyer, Chief of Detectives Grosh, and a number of detectives are continuously hanging around this hotel, and your movements would be known to them, even if they didn't make arrangements to hear your telephone conversations at the hotel.

It is my understanding that the St. Charles Hotel, which is located only about a block and a half from our office in New Orleans has two floors of air cooled rooms, and I have instructed Agent Shivers to contact the manager discreetly for the purpose of determining whether suitable air cooled rooms in such hotel can be available for you and your party.

I also assume that Attorney General Murphy and yourself will want to use our Field Division office as your headquarters during your stay in New Orleans. These offices are not air conditioned and the weather in New Orleans has been unusually humid and hot. I left instructions before leaving that the office should attempt to borrow or rent some individual unit air cooling equipment so that we might at least be able to air cool one or two of these offices.

May I also suggest that in the event you go to New Orleans, it will be desirable to have some sound recording equipment shipped there immediately together with a qualified sound man. Your arrival in the city will mean a tremendous volume of telephone calls, and Attorney General Murphy will undoubtedly be making a number of telephone calls we will want to have recorded. The telephone arrangement in the New Orleans

Memo for the Director

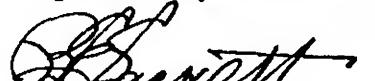
- 2 -

July 17, 1939

office is such that it is not possible to listen in over any other extension and I believe that the sound recording could be used to good advantage both on the telephone lines and to record conversations in conference rooms over microphones already installed in the office.

May I also respectfully suggest that if you have time to see me for a few minutes before you leave, I might advantageously discuss the situation with you in person.

Respectfully submitted,



B. E. Sackett,
Special Agent in Charge

39

July 15, 1933

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information,
a copy of a teletype message dated July 14, 1933,
from the New Orleans Division of the FBI, setting
forth the progress in the investigation in that
State.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowe _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. O. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 15 1933 ★

160-72500-1713
JUL 1 1933
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDED

JFS:DF

62-32502

17

July 14, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. NATHAN V. MCGOWAN

With reference to your memorandum of July 11, 1939, transmitting a letter addressed to the Attorney General under date of July 1, 1939, from Guy J. Prevot, Menaura, Louisiana, I am forwarding copies of this letter to my Special Agent in Charge at New Orleans in order that copies thereof may be transmitted to the United States Attorney for such action as is deemed appropriate by him.

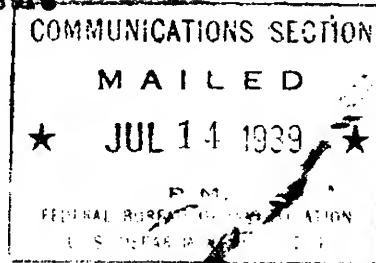
I am returning herewith the communication above referred to.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sears _____
Nichols _____
R. Tamm _____
W _____
W _____

Inclosure



Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Felt
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

Department of Justice

Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General
Washington

July 11, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Attached find letter from Mr. Guy J.

X Prevot, advising that he will be glad to
testify relative to the election held in
September, 1938, in Louisiana.

This communication is being referred to
you for whatever consideration you may deem
it merits.

Matthew McGuire
Matthew F. McGuire
Acting Assistant to the Attorney General

RECORDED

&
INDEXED

62-32509-171

B Act

*Recd. - 7/11/39
FBI - D.C.*

40

copy

GUY J. PREVOT

Bangura, La., July 1st, 1939

Atty General Frank Murphy,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The letter of Rev. Ira Day Lang ~~rector~~ of St. George's
episcopal church, I am for it. When ever an investigation
is made of Fraud in voting in this state, please conduct
one in Avoyelles Parish - I will be only to glad to testify
in an election held Sept. 1938.

Yours Truly

/s/ Guy J. Prevot

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-32509-171

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4

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 19, 1939.

Mrs. Smith of the Attorney General's office tele. to ask if by any chance there had come to the Bureau files a copy of the memorandum the Attorney General had sent to Mr. Earley transmitting copies of certain letters which had been sent to the Chamber of Commerce at New Orleans and also at Shreveport concerning the Louisiana situation.

She said they had been sent to the Division of Records and could not now be found.

Mrs. Smith was assured a search would be made,
and Mr. Tamm was asked about this.
hwd

11:25 I called Mrs. Smith and told her we had not been able to locate anything of the description given by her.

hwg

RECORDED

Mr. Tamm advised that the memorandum to Mr. Early apparently had not been sent to the Bureau.

11-871670-1C 350

*M*ay 1998
*H*anover, NH

2015 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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JEH:PLS

JULY 15, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information, a copy of a teletype message from the Los Angeles Office of the FBI, outlining the results of the interviews with Alice Lee Croseman and V. A. Tharpe by Agents of the FBI. These two parties have been mentioned prominently in connection with the Louisiana Investigation.

Respectfully,

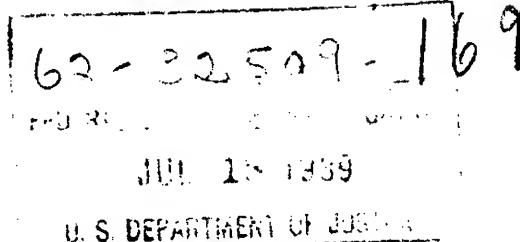
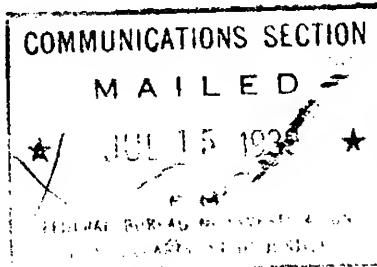
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowe _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. T. _____

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&
INDEXED



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JOHN ENGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
June 19, 1939

EAT:TEB

Time 4 p. m.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SAC Sackett called from New Orleans and gave the following information concerning James Albert Noe to Mr. Rosen.

James Albert Noe was born at West Point, Kentucky on December 21, 1893. Here he received a very limited education in the country schools. When he was about 20 years of age he moved to Louisville, Kentucky where he became interested in the development of oil and natural gas. Thereafter he went to the Middle West where he made and lost money in the oil and gas business as it fluctuated. He enlisted in U. S. Army during the World War and served over seas. He was promoted through the grades to the position of lieutenant in the 369th Infantry. He married Anna Gray Sweeney, a school teacher, who was a member of a very old Louisiana family, on May 7, 1922. He has at the present time two children, both boys, ages 16 and 11 years. He came to Monroe, Louisiana in 1923 to make his home there and continued in the oil and natural gas business. He operated in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas and was very successful. Shortly after coming to Monroe he met the late Senator Huey P. Long and became very friendly with him as years passed. He was one of Long's most vigorous supporters.

Noe was indicted April 8, 1925 in the Federal Court at Monroe, Louisiana on eight counts for violation of Section 215, U. S. Penal Code, on charges of having used the mails to defraud in connection with the sale of spurious oil stocks, apparently. He was indicted with one Y. E. Hildreth. On April 7, 1926 Hildreth pled guilty and was fined \$500.00. Noe stood trial and was acquitted by a jury on April 17, 1926.

Noe first sought political office in 1932 when he was elected to the State Senate in Louisiana. Thereafter he became even more closely associated with Huey Long, helping him in every way he could.

RECORDED & INDEXED

63-3354-111

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUN 27 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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4

Mr. T. Lawton
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Crowley
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lawler
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. St. G. S.
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

- 2 -

6-19-39

Mr. Sackett stated that during the famous radio investigation of the New Orleans city administration in 1934 at which time Huey Long aired the difficulties in New Orleans, Noe acted as Presiding Officer and faithfully carried out Long's orders. In 1934 Noe was appointed President pro tem of the State Senate and in 1935 when Lieutenant Governor John B. Fornet was elected to the State Supreme Court Noe was advanced to the Lieutenant Governorship.

On March 22, 1932 the U. S. Internal Revenue Service filed a tax lien against Noe for \$1,684.94, due to underpayment of 1928 income taxes. This lien was later dismissed.

During the latter part of 1935 Noe indicated a desire to run for the Governorship but withdrew in favor of Richard W. Leche who was nominated and, in fact, elected in the latter part of 1935. Leche was to take office on May 12, 1936. About this time Governor Oscar Kelly Allen was nominated U. S. Senator of Louisiana on January 21, 1936. Governor Allen, however, died on January 28, 1936 and Noe was sworn in as Governor the same day. He acted as Governor until Leche took office on May 12, 1936. Since this date Noe has served as Senator of Louisiana from the Ouachita-Jackson-Parrish District. He has continued to live in Monroe with his family and also engages in the oil and gas business. He is reputed to be very wealthy at the present time. At the time he was friendly with Huey Long he secured some state oil lease lands and it was from these lands that he originally obtained his money. Noe broke with Leche and Leche's administration during the second legislature after Leche was elected Governor which was in the latter part of 1936. Since this time Noe has been a very bitter foe of the Leche administration.

Noe announced his candidacy for the Governorship eight months ago and has since been trying to secure the support of the public by criticizing the Leche administration. He is alleged to have obtained a great deal of evidence against Leche and his administration.

U.S.

Indicates
MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

- 3 -

6-19-39

According to Mr. Sackett, Mr. Charles Nutter, head of the Associated Press in New Orleans, has advised him that Noe is presently in Washington telling everything he knows to the Attorney General in an effort to have an investigation of Leche made. Mr. Sackett stated that you and the Attorney General had met Mr. Nutter when you were in New Orleans.

Noe at one time during Long's regime was Chairman of the Board of Supervisors at Louisiana State University. Noe is a Presbyterian by faith. Noe is very well liked in the northern part of Louisiana particularly, because in the minds of the people he has been a very loyal friend to Huey Long.

Mr. Sackett stated the above information was secured by going through newspaper morgues; from personal memory; and other sources.

Mr. Sackett stated that he has a very good friend, a Mr. Clark Salmon, who is Managing Editor of the Item-Tribune, which paper favors the present administration. Mr. Sackett said that Mr. Salmon would have a great deal of information of the "off-the-record" activities of Noe and that Salmon would be glad to furnish this information. Mr. Salmon can be trusted according to Mr. Sackett. Mr. Sackett stated you met Mr. Salmon when you were in New Orleans.

Mr. Sackett inquired as to whether it was desired for him to contact Mr. Salmon and secure additional information in regard to Noe. Mr. Rosen told Mr. Sackett that he would be notified in the event it was desired that he contact Mr. Salmon.

Respectfully,

E. A. TALM

JEW:RP

July 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto for your information a copy of a letter dated July 14, 1939, together with a summary report from the New Orleans Division of the FBI, summarizing as best as can be done the material in the hands of the United States Attorney upon which he contemplates prosecution against various individuals in the State of Louisiana.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

RECORDED

62-32509-16

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 21 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

M.

7/16

M.

✓ Sent 7/16

44

TO

DO-8

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Baughman _____
Miss Beahm _____
Mrs. Cleveland _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Drussel _____
Mr. Egan _____
Miss Gandy _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hottel _____
Miss Laubinger _____
Mr. Laughlin _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Renneberger _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Schildecker _____
Mr. Sears _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss White _____
Files Section _____
Personnel Files _____

For Your Information _____
Note and Return _____
File _____
Return with File _____
Please Initial _____

Franklin East & Shaded Area

Mr. Tamm made last call 17

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

EAT:COH
AR:COH

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Washington, D. C.

July 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Agent R. L. Shivers called from New Orleans and talked to Inspector Rosen concerning the political situation in Louisiana.

Mr. Shivers had talked to Mr. Rogge and learned that it is planned to return in the morning an indictment against Monte E. Hart, James Monroe Smith, J. Emery Adams, Seymour Weiss and Louis Lesage for mail fraud. Mr. Shivers had a copy of the first count of the indictment in his possession but the second count had not been drawn. The indictment is substantially the same as the indictment sent to the Bureau Friday, July 14. The information and evidence pertaining to the mail fraud is summarized in the report of Special Agent C. E. Weeks, dated July 14, 1939, which was forwarded to the Bureau with the copy of the indictment.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-32619-166

Mr. Rogge has definitely stated the indictment will be returned in the morning and has indicated he will call the Attorney General before the return is made. Mr. Rogge has had an opportunity to go into only the mail fraud angle but has stated he is not satisfied with the WPA investigation.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Shivers has been requested by Mr. Rogge to have a discreet and confidential investigation made of Hilary J. Gaudin, Assistant United States Attorney in New Orleans. It is Mr. Rogge's understanding that Gaudin has been associated too much with Seymour Weiss and Monte Hart. Mr. Rogge was informed that his request would be communicated to you and if you authorized such, an investigation would be initiated immediately.

Mr. Shivers stated a copy of the first count of the indictment, and possibly a copy of the second count, would be forwarded to the Bureau via air mail special delivery tonight. As it has been indicated by Mr. Rogge that the evidence against Weiss is none too strong, Mr. Shivers stated you and the Attorney General might desire to have the indictment before Rogge calls in. Mr. Rosen informed Mr. Shivers that if this should be necessary, he would call Shivers at which time the indictment would have to be given over the telephone.

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MEMO FOR THE DIRECTOR

7-16-39

10:05 p.m.

I called Mr. Shivers and informed him you had stated it would be satisfactory to proceed with the discreet and confidential investigation of Assistant U. S. Attorney Gaudin. Mr. Shivers stated this would be initiated the first thing in the morning.

Respectfully,

E. A. EATON
E. A. Eaton

RECORDED

JPS:VIM
62-39958

August 7, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 19, 1939, wherein an anonymous informant telephonically furnished information concerning the Gurvich Agency, formerly owned by Sam Gurvich, and reputed to be presently owned by Abe Shushan, George Rayer, and Seymour Weiss.

The Bureau desires that this information be imparted to the Intelligence Unit of the Treasury Department at New Orleans, Louisiana, inasmuch as the informant advised that the above named individuals failed to pay income tax on the monies derived from the Gurvich Agency.

You are further instructed to be on the alert at all times for information concerning the questionable activities of Sam Gurvich and to promptly advise the Bureau of the information you receive.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECORDED DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
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8/7/39
SAC NEW ORLEANS
66 W/CD S/7 304

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Crowl _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lawler _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Seals _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Q. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

ORIGINAL FILED IN

New Orleans, Louisiana
July 19, 1939

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

An individual, who refused to give his name, telephoned this office July 18, 1939, and stated that he wanted to furnish some information about the detective agency and patrol service operated in New Orleans by SAM GURVICH. He said that GURVICH had operated a detective agency in New Orleans and that the business operated by GURVICH went broke about three and one half years ago and that it was reorganized and that the present owners of the corporation are now ABEL SHUSHAN, GEORGE REYER and SEYMOUR WEISS. He said that all of the business men in New Orleans are forced to use the patrol service of the GURVICH agency on a threat of having their taxes raised if they refused to subscribe to this service. He said that GURVICH has a large number of patrolmen on his force and that these officers have commissions as police officers and are employed by the city, state and parish to officiate at public functions where extra police duty is necessary.

He said that the GURVICH agency also has the protection of Pontchartrain Beach and that it is a matter of fact that the GURVICH agency is simply a racket which is operated in this city for the benefit of the above-named persons; namely, SHUSHAN, REYER and SEYMOUR WEISS. He said that he did not believe these individuals pay income tax on the monies derived from this corporation and that the same individuals also control the Jacobs Candy Company at New Orleans and the Yellow Cab Company, as well as the Cloverland Dairy.

This informant also stated that the business houses in New Orleans, Louisiana, were forced to subscribe for the GURVICH protection and that if they did not the City Board of Health would make an investigation of the premises and close the business.

Please advise me if the Bureau desires that this information be turned over to the local Intelligence Unit of the Treasury Department.

RECORDED

Very truly yours,
IN DFA

R. E. SACHER,
Special Agent in Charge

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 21 1939	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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PLS:sh

JENKINS

JULY 15, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am attaching hereto, for your information,
a copy of a teletype message of July 14, 1939, from
the New Orleans Field Division of the FBI, reporting
upon the developments in connection with the Louisiana
State investigation.

Respectfully,

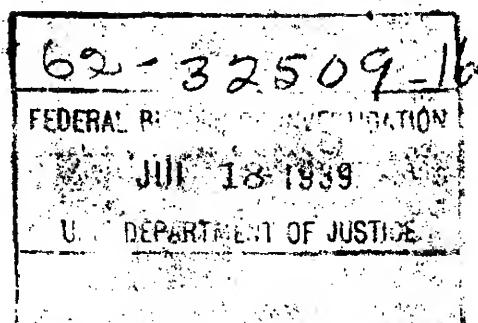
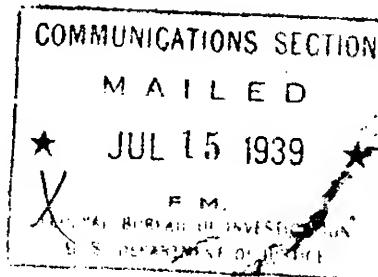
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

RECORDED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. C. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosenblatt _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Lester _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. O. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



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RECORDED

JULY 19, 1964 INDEXED

62-32519-164

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 19 1964

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAS:CD
TIME 1:00 PM

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. R. A. SACKETT

Re: Louisiana State Officials
Information Concerning

I telephoned Special Agent in Charge Sackett of New Orleans to advise him that the Attorney General had talked to United States Attorney Vlosca and instructed Vlosca to handle this situation vigorously.

In answer to my inquiry as to what Agent was best informed on this case, Mr. Sackett stated Agent Dunker. I instructed him to have Agent Dunker understand that we want to keep in very close touch with him on the details of all developments as the Attorney General and I are planning to come to New Orleans almost any day. I informed Mr. Sackett that before this trip was made, I wanted to know just how substantial some of these charges are and complete details as to what evidence Mr. Vlosca has to support the inclemencies he has made.

I mentioned that Vlosca has not impressed me as being a very aggressive man although he is probably very sincere, but it appears that some of these investigators are pushing him around. I told Mr. Sackett that the Attorney General had suggested Vlosca call a conference for all of these investigators and had also suggested that he, Vlosca, keep in very close touch with the Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau's New Orleans Office so the Bureau will know what is going on. Even though we are not conducting the investigation, the Attorney General does want the Bureau to keep an eye on the investigation in order that the Director can advise him as to what should be done. Therefore, I instructed Mr. Sackett to keep in very intimate touch with this investigation.

I asked Mr. Sackett if there were any assistants United States Attorney Vlosca's Office who are tied in with the Louisiana political machine. Mr. Sackett advises that Herbert Christenberry, who is an Assistant United States Attorney who is presently handling the J.P.A. investigation, is a brother to Carl Christenberry who was a very close friend and secretary of Long and is presently the state publicity representative in Washington. I instructed Mr. Sackett to send me by teletype the names of any individuals who might be tied up with this machine for we cannot take any chance of a leak.

COPIES DESTROYED

7-29-1964

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Memo for Mr. Tamm

- 2 -

July 10,

Mr. Sackett advises Viosca has expressed to him some doubt as to Christenberry and James Skelly Wright as Wright is a nephew of the City Commissioner in New Orleans who is involved in this investigation. I told Mr. Sackett that Viosca mentioned on the phone this morning to the Attorney General that there was some fellow that had been recommended for appointment by Seymour Weiss. Sackett stated this person was Gaudia (phonetic).

Mr. Sackett informs me that the Grand Jury would indict anybody and Viosca is being run by his assistants and doesn't seem to know what evidence he has or just what he is doing. I told Mr. Sackett that the Attorney General has ordered the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division to proceed to New Orleans and the Attorney General will probably come down there Monday.

Mr. Sackett then advised me that he had talked to Mr. Tamm regarding Seymour Weiss and the possibility of interviewing him before he is indicted on mail fraud, which case appears very indefinite. I mentioned that the Attorney General has instructed Viosca to indict no one until we can go over the evidence. In the meantime, I suggested that Mr. Sackett see what we have on this case. Mr. Sackett stated that the Post Office Inspectors have not submitted reports to Viosca, but Viosca is being guided by one J. Fair Gardin who was formerly an Assistant United States Attorney in Shreveport and is now Special Assistant to the State Attorney General.

I instructed Mr. Sackett to discuss this whole matter with Mr. Viosca to find out if he has any written reports. Mr. Sackett informs me that he has already talked to Viosca several days ago and finds that he has only a few signed statements. I stated that Viosca must get some memorandum of facts before he gets these indictments because the Attorney General will want to know this, and further since I have to advise the Attorney General, it is necessary that I know just where we stand. Therefore Viosca should demand a report of all written evidence so we can see just what evidence has been obtained.

Mr. Sackett stated he would send a teletype relative to this conversation and would see Mr. Viosca immediately.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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C O P Y (gmr)

JTH:HCB

July 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For your information I am attaching
hereto a telephone report from the New Orleans
Office of the FBI dated July 7, concerning
Dr. James Monroe Smith and the political
situation in Louisiana.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Inclosure

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&
INDEXED

62-32509-163

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 18 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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